

an annular side wall portion beneath the cap portion having part line flash or surface mismatch thereon, the annular side wall portion comprising a top neck section, a threaded section beneath the top neck section, and a bottom section beneath the threaded section, and

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a plurality of annular sealing bands situated around the top neck section of the annular side wall portion through at least a portion of said part line flash or surface mismatch, whereby as the closure is threaded within the container, the sealing bands releasably engage the gasket, thereby improving the effectiveness of the gasket and preventing leakage between said closure and said gasket due to said part line flash or surface mismatch.

Please add new claims 9 through 14 as follows:

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9. (New) A closure capable of preventing leakage between a closure sealing surface having part line flash or surface mismatch thereon and a gasket, said closure comprising:

a cap portion;

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an annular sealing surface extending below said cap portion and having part line flash or surface mismatch thereon; and

at least one annular sealing band extending radially outwardly from said annular sealing surface and through at least a portion of said part line flash or surface mismatch, so that said at least one sealing band engages the gasket so as to prevent leakage between said part line flash or surface mismatch and said gasket.

10. (New) The closure of claim 9 wherein said annular sealing band has a triangular cross-section so as to decrease the surface area at which the sealing band engages the gasket thereby increasing the engagement force between the sealing band and the gasket.

11. (New) The closure of claim 10 having a pair of annular sealing bands so as to prevent leakage between said part line flash or surface mismatch and said gasket.

12. (New) An improved closure for engagement with a container and capable of engagement with a gasket located between said closure and said container so as to prevent leakage between said closure and said gasket due to part line flash or surface mismatch on the sealing surface of said closure, said closure comprising:

an annular sealing surface having part line flash or surface mismatch; and

at least one annular sealing band extending radially outwardly from said annular sealing surface and capable of penetrating the gasket so as to improving the effectiveness of the gasket.

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a 13. (New) A closure capable of engagement with a gasket for preventing leakage between a closure sealing surface having part line flash or surface mismatch thereon and the gasket, said closure comprising:

a cap portion;

an annular sealing surfaces extending below said cap portion and having part line flash or surface mismatch thereon;

an annular threaded section extending below said sealing surface for engagement with a container; and

a pair of annular sealing bands extending radially outwardly from said annular sealing surface and through at least a portion of said part line flash or surface mismatch, so that said at least one sealing band engages the gasket so at to prevent leakage between said part line flash or surface mismatch and said gasket.

14. (New) A closure for threaded engagement with a container and capable of engagement with a gasket located between said closure and said container so as to prevent leakage between

said closure and said gasket due to part line flash or surface mismatch on the sealing surface of said closure, said closure comprising:

a cap portion;

an annular sealing surface extending below said cap portion and having part line flash or surface mismatch thereon;

an annular threaded section extending below said sealing surface for engagement with said container; and

at least one annular sealing band extending radially outwardly from said annular sealing surface so that when said closure is threaded within said container, said at least one sealing band engages the gasket thereby improving the effectiveness of the gasket.